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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Cheng, et al.

**Examiner:** Ha, Nathan W.

**Serial No.:** 10/724,938

**Group:** Art Unit 2814

**Filed:** December 1, 2003

**Docket:** YOR920030286US1 (8728-659)

**For: Ball Limiting Metallurgy, Interconnection Structure Including the Same, and Method of Forming an Interconnection Structure**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Office Action mailed on September 6, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, the claims of Group II (12-29). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claim restriction.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date indicated below.

Dated: 11/6/05

  
Frank V. DeRosa

As set forth in MPEP § 803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though the application contains claims to independent and distinct inventions. While the inventions may be distinct for the reasons stated in the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that simultaneous examination will not present a *serious* burden. Indeed, the claimed inventions of groups I and II include subject matters that are commonly related to the extent that relevant references, if any, would most likely be commonly classified in the requisite search class, thus requiring a limited search for both claim groups. As such, it is respectfully submitted that there would be no burden, much less a serious burden, on Examiner to simultaneously examination all claims in the current application. Under such circumstances, it is respectfully requested that Examiner maintain all claims in the same application.

Respectfully submitted,



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